

Impact of Urbanization on Juvenile Delinquency: A Study of Muzaffarabad Jail

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Abstract

Juvenile delinquency is not a new phenomenon but urban growth has made it worse by changing the structure of the society. The present study was designed to study the impact of urbanization on juvenile delinquency. This study aimed to find out the causes associated with urbanization that lead towards juvenile delinquency. Qualitative research design was used to study the impact of urbanization on juvenile delinquency. Case study method was employed to study the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency. Researcher used a purposive sampling technique and selected four young offenders from District Jail Muzaffarabad for data collection. Social learning theory supposes that adolescents develop the attitudes and skills necessary to become delinquents through their sustained contact with other lawbreakers. Juvenile's exposure to delinquent attitudes and skills increases their tendency to also imitate such behaviours. Present study explored various causes of juvenile delinquency related with urbanization which are; deviant peer association, urban poverty and relative deprivation, lack of self-control and parental supervision and easy access to illegal means.

Introduction

Social Learning theory implies that criminal behavior is learned through close relations with others, it asserts that children are born innocent but learn to be bad. This theory states that everyone has the potential to become criminal because modern society presents many opportunities for illegal activity but one has the choice to go either way. If a child is raised in a civilized community that has strong morals and if that child has positive role models at home and in the community, he or she has the more chances to be a productive part of the society. Opposing that scenario, when a child grows up in an uncivilized neighborhood where he or she is surrounded by gangs, drugs and violence every day, it is very likely that this child will be more attractive towards crimes (McDavid and McCandless, 1962).

Urbanization has changed social relationships entirely due to the emergence of new technology. Due to the phenomenon it is very difficult for parents to keep an eye on the activities of the children. As a result of urbanization, parents are over engaged in their work; they are not able to supervise the children properly, as a consequence sometimes children get exposed to numerous negative activities which make them delinquents. According to Bartol & Bartol, (1986) legally a juvenile delinquent is one who commits an act and by law it is considered as illegal and adjudicated "delinquent" by an appropriate court. Any act

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which over sighted to be hurtful and dangerous to an individual or a group of individuals is known as offence. Offences are generally known harmful against, the state, the person ethics and mores.

The greatest cause of juvenile delinquency is the lack of sense of responsibility amongst parents in monitoring and taking care of their children appropriately. Parents have less control over their children therefore they plunge themselves into a society with insufficient spiritual values. In such an environment misleading information from the media, such as television, magazine, and the internet act as sources of acceptance instead of spiritual values. Sometimes urban environment anticipate ecstasy from young ones, due to curiosity young adults may engage in activities which are clearly against the law. Geographical analysis suggests that countries with more urbanized populations have higher registered crime rates than those with well rooted rural lifestyles and communities (Moser, 2006). This may be attributable to the differences in social control and social cohesion.

Literature Review

Cox *et al.* (2013) investigated that the one single common variable that tends to emerge among all countries that report a serious increase in delinquency is urbanization. It is not surprising to find that, as conditions become more congested and as family systems around the world become fragmented due to modern work demands and economic circumstances, delinquency among youth begin to emerge, regardless of the cultural and/or national background they may have. Weinberg (1964) investigated that the disorganization which results from urbanization is the backbone of juvenile delinquency in Ghana. The study indicate that due to weakening of the extended family controls and less effective urban nuclear families control they become attracted to deviant peers networks in the urban centers for direction. Delinquency in Ghana was reckoned to be a form of adaptation by the youths who have been estranged from their families and schools and occupying a locus in the urban center with no alternative institutions to support their livelihood.

Wireko-Brobby (2008) reiterated that the cause of juvenile crime in Ghana is attributable to failure of home with the youth at the suffering end. Unlike in the past where the care of an adolescent was a communal responsibility of the extended family and by extension the entire community, this function has now been relegated to only the nuclear family with the inception of urbanization. Hence, when the youth are in need or troubled by a problem, the extended family members feel may be reluctant or unavailable to intervene since they will also be focused on their nuclear family. Haskell & Yablonsky (1974) concluded that industrialization and urbanization, with their accompanying changes in family structure and function leads to the juvenile crimes. Shelley (1981) described that the general rise in the adolescent's crime rate and its concentration in the urban environment are explained by the greater availability of goods, the increased feasibility of crime commission, anonymity and increased feelings of relative deprivation because of a greater gap between rich and poor or a greater awareness of deprivation due to advertising through the media. Further, the growth in juvenile participation in crime is accounted for by the increased participation in activities outside the home and by the decline of an established role for juveniles in society.

Gottfredson and Hirschi's (1990) indicated that the effective parenting enhances adolescent's development of strong self-control which combats delinquency. Data for the study was collected from 197 adolescents that were in a high school in an urban area of a southwestern state of the United States. The results of the study indicated that parental monitoring and discipline was significantly negatively related to low self-control. Lack of self-control helps the children to get involved in deviant acts.

Cutrin *et al.* (2015) assess the effects of the family functioning on juvenile antisocial behavior either directly or indirectly through the choice of deviant friends. The sample consisted of 764 adolescents from the Autonomous Community of Galicia (Spain), from juvenile offender centres and students from local schools. In this study they confirmed that absence of parental monitoring facilitated ties with deviant juvenile friends and these, in turn, leads to the development of antisocial behavior.

United Nations (2003) explored that the ongoing process of urbanization in developing countries is contributing to juvenile involvement in criminal behavior. The basic features of the urban environment foster the development of anti-social behavior deriving mainly from the weakening of primary social relations and control, increasing reliance on the media at the expense of informal communication, and negative use of modern technology. Studies show that children who receive adequate parental supervision are less likely to engage in criminal activities. Sanidad-Leones (2006) reported that urbanization has worsened poverty. The urban poor are overwhelmed by the high cost of living, financial problems, unstable jobs, insufficient educational opportunities, inadequate health and sanitation, and inadequate housing. People resort to crimes to alleviate or elude from their miseries. Deterioration of living conditions in urban areas has produced its share of juvenile delinquency and promotes those conditions that create fertile breeding grounds for crime.

Chaisatien (2003) indicated that contributing factors to teen deviance include the media, peer pressure, and biological disorders. Looking at the family, the researcher suggests that parents of delinquents are often struggling to reach higher living standards and ignore their relationship with their children. Ultimately, due to the lack of supervision of children by parents, easy access to illegal means, excessive use of media and delinquent peers lead children towards delinquency.

Urbanization has increased adolescents exposure to media. Ybarra *et al.* (2008) conducted a study to examine the association between violence in the media and the expression of seriously violent behavior among older children and teenagers. Sample size of 1588 youths of age 10 to 15 years were interviewed. The main outcome measure was self-reported seriously violent behavior, including; shooting or stabbing someone, aggravated assault, robbery, and sexual assault. Video games and films for instance, have exposed children to violence at a tender age. Exposures to violence in the media, both online and off-line, were significantly associated with seriously violent behavior.

Baglivio *et al.* (2015) identified adverse childhood experiences which include; emotional neglect, household substance abuse, parental separation/divorce and household member with a history of jail/imprisonment have been key risk factors for offending and victimization. These risk factors are highly associated with urban areas. Hanpanyapichit and Somsin (2003) reported that in the big cities children are involved in crimes i.e. offences against property as well as bodily injury, drug addiction and homicide, robbery, pick-pocketing and bag-snatching to extortion. Most juveniles told that they committed the offence because of peer group influence. Economic pressures create problematic situations in the family and these situations impact family relations, which can result in pushing juveniles under the influence of their peer groups. Trillo & Redondo (2013) found an intense positive correlation between juvenile delinquent friends and juvenile delinquent activity.

Hoeve *et al.* (2009) confirmed in meta-analysis, which analyzed the results of hundreds of studies published from 1950 to 2007, the direct influence of family variables on juvenile deviant behavior. They concluded that parental affection and understanding was negatively associated to the manifestation of delinquent behavior, whereas parental neglect and parental rejection or hostility towards children were positively related to deviant behavior. As for as parental monitoring is concerned, the controlling behavior and knowing the activities and whereabouts of children were negatively associated to involvement in antisocial activities. Parenting styles were a powerful factor for predicting the development of antisocial and delinquent behavior. In short, in urban areas parents are busy in their works unable to pay much attention towards the activities of their children which resulted in their involvement in delinquent acts.

Khurshid & Urooj (2012) explored various causes of juvenile delinquency in the context of Pakistani society which are mostly related with poverty and family neglect. Qualitative research approach was used and case study method was employed to unravel various causes attached to juvenile delinquency. It was concluded that the delinquents are increasing frequently due to the rapid population growth, urbanization and poverty. They concluded the factors which are responsible for juvenile delinquency are: delinquent community environment, bad company and peers, bad impact of media, broken family and poverty. Due to these factors children are committing heinous crimes like early sexual involvement, alcohol and drug abuse, robbery and murder and other antisocial behaviors.

Urbanization provides environment which seems to be the feasible for commission of offences. It would seem to be true that delinquency is a universal phenomenon in which youth engage in deviant types of behavior all around the world. It has even been speculated that delinquency is simply a natural by-product of urbanization and modernization. In Pakistan the juvenile delinquency is increasing on alarming level. The process of urbanization has affected the family life in Pakistan causing the breakdown of family values and the subsequent growth of social disorganization, which has worsened the juvenile delinquency situation in Pakistan.

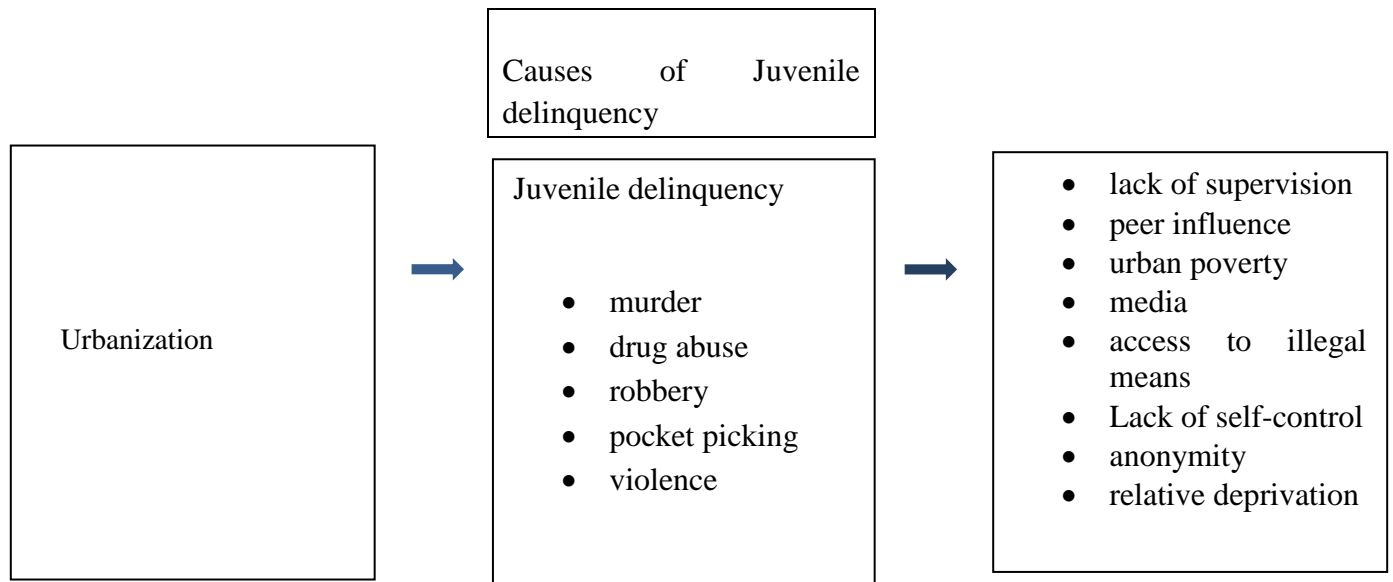
Conceptualization

Urbanization

The UN defines urbanization as the course of shift in population from a rural to a more urban Civilization. Numerically expressed, urbanization denotes the increases in the share of the population that resides in urban areas predominantly because of net rural to urban migration (UNFPA, 2007).

Juvenile delinquency

A violation of Federal law committed by a person prior to age eighteen which would have been a crime if committed by an adult (Scalia, 1997).



Objective of the study

Juvenile delinquency is not a new phenomenon but urban expansion has made it worst by changing the structure of the society. At present the number of delinquent children are increasing frequently with the rapid growth in urbanization in Pakistan. The present study was designed to study the impact of urbanization on juvenile delinquency in Pakistan. This study aimed to find out the causes associated with urbanization that directly or indirectly lead towards juvenile delinquency.

Research Questions

1. What are the factors associated with urbanization which led some young juveniles to get involved in delinquency?
2. How lack of supervision of parents, relatives and community members in urban areas lead young one towards delinquent behavior?
3. In what way peer group stimulate the juveniles to commit crime in urban areas?

Theoretical Framework

Robert J. Sampson claims that any theory of crime must begin with the fact that most violent criminals belonged to teenage peer-groups, particularly street gangs, and that a gang member will become a full-time criminal if social controls are insufficient to address delinquent behavior at an early age. He follows Shaw and McKay (1942) in accepting that, if the family and relatives offer inadequate supervision or incomplete socialization, children are more likely to join violent gangs, unless others take the parents' place. Tight-knit communities are more likely to identify strangers, report deviants to their parents, and pass warnings along. High rates of residential mobility and high-rise housing disrupt the ability to establish and maintain social ties. Formal organizations like schools, churches, and the police act as surrogates for family and friends in many communities, but poor, unstable communities often lack the organization and political connections to obtain resources for fighting crime and offering young people an alternative to deviant behavior. Sampson concludes that "the empirical data suggest that the structural elements of social disorganisation have relevance for explaining macro level variations in violence."

According to the general theory of crime (Gottfredson & Hirschi, 1990), juvenile delinquents have a common behavioral pattern which finds expression in their self-control. By self-control, Gottfredson and Hirschi (1990) are referring to the degree to which an individual is "*vulnerable to the temptations of the moment*" (p.87). They continue that, juvenile delinquents are individual who possess low self-control as compared to their no delinquent counterparts and this compromises their ability to desist from deviant activities. The source of the low self-control common among juvenile delinquents can be traced to their early life socialization which tends to be ineffective (Longshore, Chang, Hsieh & Messina, 2004). This is because, the mastery self-control is learned just as other behaviors and attitudes are also taught within a society (Shoemaker, 2009). Hence, due to urbanization parents are busy in their busy routine, so they fail to supervise their children and monitor them when they show wrong behaviors by reprimanding them, they will end up promoting low self-control in their children. In other words, he came to accept the proposition that was leveled against him so he eventually felt people who behaved like him were found in the ghetto. In relation to the literature, the above finding is in line with the labeling theory (Becker, 1963) which maintains that, when society attach tags to adolescents as delinquents, this in turn make them behave in a way which satisfies the definition of delinquency. Hence, it can be inferred that, self-fulfilling prophesy (Merton, 1968; Putwain & Sammons, 2002) was at play in the life trajectory of child.

Relative deprivation theories argue that when attempting to understand the causes of crime, it is insufficient to examine objective factors such as poverty or inequality, and instead we must try to “delineate the factors that regulate the relationship between objective and subjective status” Relative deprivation refers broadly to people’s perceptions of their well-being relative to comparison others. Well-being may be estimated based on a number of dimensions, including wealth, income, power and prestige. “Relative deprivation is used to refer to the emotion one feels when making negatively discrepant comparisons” (Crosby, 1976). Relative deprivation increases negative self-feeling, which in turn leads to crime. Relative deprivation results in feelings of despair, frustration, grievance, and anger, and may be a powerful motivator of crime. In Pakistan the juvenile delinquency is approaching at a high level and the law authorities or individuals linked with it are paying attention to understand the most frequent causes of the delinquent behavior due to dangers attached to society.

Methodology

Research Design

Research design is a detailed outline of how an investigation will take place. Qualitative research design was used in this study as this area is not easily research able so qualitative research design was used to study the impact of urbanization on juvenile delinquency.

Methodology

Case study method was used to study the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency. Researcher wanted to know in detail about those factors that made them to commit that crime. Case study method was selected for deeper understanding of the circumstances that compelled participants to get involved in the delinquent behavior.

Population of Study

The entire young delinquents at the Muzaffarabad jail were taken as the population for this study.

Sample size

In the present study four young criminals were selected from District Jail Muzaffarabad. The respondents were in-depth interviewed in the light of semi structured interview guide.

Tools and techniques

The semi structure interview guide was used as a guiding tool to collect data and in depth information was gathered from the respondents by using probing technique. Researcher used a purposive sample technique to select the ones that met the requirements of this study (i.e. Age and stay in the urban area).

Ethical Concerns

Permission to conduct in depth interview was taken from the Additional Secretary Home Department of AJ&K Govt. Muzaffarabad. In this particular research, before collection of data researcher always kept ethical concerns in mind. The researcher maintained confidentiality and privacy. Before each of the interviews began, the respondent was informed about the purpose of the research. Researcher provided them full understanding of the research. Moreover, it is the duty of the researcher to also make sure that the identities of the participants remain confidential or anonymous. Researcher ensured that the information that the participants provided will not expose their identity. It was made clear to respondents that data collected from them will not be used for some negative purpose.

Limitations and Field Experiences

It was very challenging for the researcher to get permission from the administration of jail because it demands formal procedures and written permission for data collection. Many of the respondents did not cooperate with the researcher they were not telling the all hidden facts due to feelings of shame and guilt. However researcher took respondents in confidence by explaining the purpose of research and assured them to keep information secret. Researcher used probe technique for taking the detailed information. Over all, the experience of data collection was very interesting and memorable as it build confidence in the researcher.

CAUSES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

To find out the causes of juvenile delinquency associated with urbanization researcher has interviewed four offenders. The description and analysis of cases are given here as under.

1. Deviant Peer Association and Delinquency

Case No. 1

Name: Danish

Age: 16 years

Stage of Education: student of 8th class

Place of occurrence: Muzaffarabad

Offence: Murder

Brief description of the case

The name of accused is Danish and his age is 16 years. He is imprisoned for the last one year and the case filed against him was murder. He committed murder when he was studying in class 8th. His parents got separate when he was just of one year. He lived with his father who was a busy businessman and his father did not know about his company neither he bothered to spend time with his child. He had six brothers and sister and all were busy in their own life. He lived in a nuclear family system and so was not supervised at all. He used to spend most of his time out of his home.

One day, his friend called him and asked him to join as he was indulged in a quarrel. He went to help his friend but instead of solving the matter, the situation became worst as they fought more. Next morning while Danish was standing at the shop of his brother, the boy with whom he fought the previous day, came there. They started to abuse one another again and it lead to a situation of serious fight. Meanwhile, Danish noticed the availability of knife in his pocket. He snatched that knife from him and made it to dig it in the body of the other boy. This incident deteriorated his whole family.

He said, " *I am repenting on the moment when I left to help my friend. If I had not gone there, I would not have spoiled my life*".

Key issues and analysis

His father divorced his wife because she was so much career oriented that she agreed to leave her family but not her job. This happened due to the curse of urbanization. The biggest factor was peer pressure; he committed crime because of his bad company. The participants' father was relaxed in outlook as far as their day to day supervision of their wards was concerned. He did not monitor in great length the sort of

peers and activities in which his son was engaged. So whatever their wards were turning into was out of their sight. The functioning of the nuclear family also emerged as one of the circumstances that paved the way for my participant into juvenile delinquency. Out of hundreds of reasons of this crime, the most important are lack of parental supervision, lack of self-control and his aggressive behavior. This all could have been cured if he had not led an isolated life. McGloin and Shermer (2009) also indicated in their study that adolescents' deviant peer relations had a significant impact on their future involvement in delinquency.

Social learning theory which supposes that, young people develop the attitudes and skills necessary to become delinquents through their sustained contact with other individuals who harbor the norms of delinquency (Wood & Alleyne, 2010). This indicates that, adolescent's exposure to delinquent attitudes and skills increases their propensity to also emulate such behaviors with time (Bandura, 1977). Hence, so long as young people are exposed to attitudes that are in favor of the violation of law than the ones that are law abiding, delinquency will prevail.

2. Urban poverty and relative deprivation

Case No. 2

Name: Shafaqat Ali

Age: 17 years

Stage of Education: Student of 8th class

Place of occurrence: Muzaffarabad

Offence: Theft

Brief description of the case

The name of offender is Shafaqat Ali, he is student of class 8th and his age is 17 years. He is behind the bars for last three months. His crime is theft. He has six brothers and sisters. His family belonged to Chikothi (Azad Kashmir). They shifted to Muzaffarabad in search of an employment. His parents started to work in a house to fulfill their needs. Shafaqat Ali also started helping them in the evening after coming back from school. He always felt himself deprived of the modern facilities of life among his friends. So he started thinking about fulfilling his needs at his own.

One evening he went to help his parents, he saw his mother sweeping a room. He went inside and saw a gold necklace in a drawer of dressing table. He wished to own it and to become like his other friends. He at once put it inside his pocket. His mother could not notice it.

After two or three days the owner of that necklace noticed the absence of that necklace. She asked her servants to return them as she told that no one is supposed to do that. Both husband and wife were honest enough so they got a shock of what owner blamer them. Meanwhile Shafaqat was caught by police when he was selling that necklace worth 1.5 lakh in a gold mart.

He said, *"If my parents had enough money to fulfill my needs, I would not have been behind the bars in a case of theft. I am regretting on what I did as others will label me the professional criminal"*.

Key issues and analysis

In order to live in an urban area, people have to live their life at higher cost. Urbanization differentiated the segments of masses living in a society. Shafaqat told that when he came to the city, he felt the difference in his own financial status and that of others. Others lived with a silver spoon in their mouth and he cannot even fulfill the basic necessities. While he was living in village, he had no wish to become

rich. Urbanization made him to compare himself with others so he became victim of relative deprivation which lead to juvenile delinquency.

Olotuah & Adesiji, (2009) find out that that children from poor homes commit more crime than those from rich homes. This suggests that poverty in cities is a major driver of juvenile criminality in urban areas. They find themselves in conflict with their counterparts from rich homes and are consequently exposed to criminality.

Merton (1949) in his strain theory indicates that relative deprivation may also be considered to be a type of strain. While individuals may feel relatively deprived of a number of things, feelings of relative deprivation due to economic comparisons can be an important motivator of crime. Relative deprivation occurs when individuals compare themselves and their economic position with others and find a negative result. Such recognition (the cognitive component of relative deprivation) and the accompanying feelings such as anger can be powerful motivators for them to indulge anti-social actions to reduce their deprivation. Such action may be instrumental, and may include attempts to gain wealth legally or illegally, depending on whether or not one's deprivation is perceived to be just or unjust. Low income, however, is not the only factor but rather one the most important factor which causes many of the other factors. Low income is rather directly related to miserable conditions of family life and provide insufficient money for recreation. Ultimately children chose crime to fulfill their needs.

3. Lack of self-control and parental supervision

Case No. 3

Name: Muhammad Saqib

Age: 16 years

Stage of Education: Student of 9th class

Place of occurrence: Muzaffarabad

Offence: Murder

Brief description of the case

The name of the offender is Muhammad Saqib, he is 16 years old and resident of Muzaffarabad. His father was a businessman while his mother was a nurse. He has 1 sister. His parents were very busy because of their work schedule. They were financially stable and provided Saqib a luxurious life. He spend a lot of money on himself and his friends because of this he was always appreciated in his peers even for his wrong doings. He was in jail for last six months because he committed a murder of 17 years old boy named Tahir. He was also arrested twice because of fighting and got released easily by his parents. He was very fond of watching movies and dramas. He started liking a girl who was her class mate. One day he proposed her and she did not reply. He started thinking more about her. After some days he came to know that she was interested in some other boy who was also one of their class mate. In their class boys were divided into different groups and that boy, to whom he killed, belonged to a group that occasionally have fight with his group. He approached Tariq and asked him to not to talk to that girl

but Tariq resisted. He left him at that time but the strong feeling of revenge compelled him to fight with Tariq.

One day he asked his friend to call Tariq at his home. He went to his friend's home when he was at his home and took dagger with him to threat Tariq. When Tariq saw him he got angry and started fighting with him. During the fight usman stab Tariq several times with that dagger in anger because of it Tariq died on the spot.

He said, I took that dagger only to threat Tariq but my anger and strong feeling of hate compelled me to kill him. Now I think if my parents have guided me properly and provided me counseling for my wrong doings then I might not have courage to commit that crime.

Key issues and analysis

In this case the main reason of crime is lack of self-control due to lack of parental monitoring and supervision. This is because of urbanization that parents are busy in earning money and they don't have enough time to spend with their children and socialize them properly. It is said that the mother's lap is the first institution for a child, like other behavioral traits child also learn self-control from his parents. When parents will not spend enough time with their children this will lead them towards delinquency. As Saqib's parents used to defend him for his wrong doing rather than punishing and guiding him which ultimately decreased level of self-control. In urban areas everyone has an easy access to media. Even in this case media also played a vital role in developing feelings of affection, anger and revenge. The American Psychological Association has reviewed the evidence and has concluded that television violence accounts for about 10 per cent of aggressive behavior among children.

Hay (2001) investigated the effect of parenting on adolescents' development of self-control and delinquency. They concluded that effective parenting enhances adolescent s development of strong self-control which combats with delinquency. McGloin and Shermer (2009) revealed that low self-control and deviant peers association were found to independently increase adolescents' chances of engaging in delinquent acts. Moreover, self-control together with deviant peer associations, were discovered to be interrelated in predicting adolescent involvement in delinquency.

Gottfredson & Hirschi (1990) in general theory of crime maintained that juvenile delinquents have a common behavioral pattern which finds expression in their self-control. By self-control, they meant by vulnerability of an individual to the temptations of the moment. They continued that, juvenile delinquents are individual who possess low self-control as compared to their non-delinquent counterparts and this indulge them in deviant activities. The source of the low self-control among juvenile is ineffective socialization in their early by their. The self-control is also learned just as other behaviors and attitudes are learned from others. Due to urbanization parents are busy in their hard routine, so they do not get time to supervise their children and monitor them when they show wrong behaviors. As they don't punish them for wrong acts this develops lack of self-control in them, which ultimately resulted in crime commission by them.

4. Easy access to illegal means

Case No. 3

Name: Shahzaib

Age: 17 years

Stage of Education: student of 8th class

Place of occurrence: Muzaffarabad

Offence: Narcotics Supply

Brief description of the case

Briefly stated that the accused Shahzaib was carrying 1.5 kg of hash (charas) along with him and travelling through Rawalpindi to Muzaffarabad and captured at the police check post at the place of kohala. His case is under trial. He is 17 years old. His family was migrated from Jammu Kashmir in 1991. He has 8 siblings. His father is running a small general store and is not earning well. His mother is a house wife. They were living hand to mouth. He was studying in class 8th. Being the eldest among his siblings his father had high hopes with him. He was not interested in his studies and he used bunk his school to play snooker. One day he went to snooker club where he met a man and he offered him to play with him. They became friend and Shahzaib started to visit him often. One day that man asked him if he wants to become rich then he would have to carry a bag from Rawalpindi to Muzaffarabad for which he will paid with some handsome money . He agreed and acted upon his conditions and started transporting drugs. Initially he didn't know that he is carrying drugs with him, after some time he came to know the fact but he didn't step back. He was confidently doing this for last two years.

Key issues and analysis

The major factor of committing this crime was easy access to illegal means in urban area. As he was doing s this for two years and never faced any difficulty. There is anonymity in urban areas because of this he was never asked or suspected by any community member. Now we can say that this factor lead him to express anti-social and delinquent behavior.

Swahn and Hammig (1942) concluded that easy access to alcohol, guns, and cigarettes may increase involvement of adolescents in risky behaviors. Limiting access therefore is important in order to reduce the occurrence of health-risk behaviors associated with substance use, delinquency and injury among adolescents.

Availability and proneness theory given by smart maintained that drug addicts who sought only a brief experience with a drug would desist from further use if the price went up greatly, if far more effort was required to obtain it or if they had to take more risk. Probably changes in the availability of particular drugs explain the cessation of use of that drug (Lettieri et al. 1980)

IMPACT OF URBANIZATION ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

There is evidence of a universal increase in juvenile crime in large cities. The process of urbanization is contributing to juvenile's involvement in criminal behavior in several ways. The urban environment has weakened the primary social relations and increased reliance on the media and the tendency towards anonymity. Adolescents from low-income families often feel excluded and deprived. To raise their self-esteem and improve their status they may choose crime. It was concluded from the case studies that the factors which are closely associated with juvenile delinquency are inadequate parental supervision, lack of self-control, urban poverty and relative deprivation and access to illegal means. Social Learning theory of crime also suggests that criminal behavior is learned through others like other behavioral traits. If children will not be supervised properly there would be greater probability of their involvement in anti-social acts. Findings of the study can help the policy makers, law enforcing agencies and civil society in order to understand causes of juvenile delinquency from reality point of view.

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