

AN EXPLORATORY STUDY OF PERSONAL VALUES AND EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Dr. Nisha Singh*

ABSTRACT

The researcher has made an exploratory research to study the personal values and educational status of juvenile delinquency in Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh). By using variety of data and processing it with the help of different statistical techniques the researcher has come out to the conclusion that the delinquency rate tends to be highest during early adolescence (12-16 years age group) and Low educational background is the main attribute of Indian delinquency. During interaction session, juveniles admitted that they are either illiterate or are studied up to primary level. Poor economic background is second important feature of juvenile delinquency. Most of the juveniles come from low income group. Based on interaction with Juvenile it is observed that most of the Juveniles left their study in between though they wanted to study further but due to some circumstances but they couldn't due to their family condition, poverty or responsibility etc. Their study interrupted as either they were working somewhere or helping their parents in some kind of work. On the basis of interaction with various juveniles it is reflected that surroundings, peer groups, lust and desire of lavishness, family tensions, and criminal backgrounds of parents are some of the major causes behind delinquent behaviour of the juveniles. On the basis of overall analysis, it has been observed that Juvenile Delinquent possesses Personal Values. Juveniles who are more educated they possess higher values in compare to those who are less educated.

KEYWORDS: *Juvenile Delinquency, Statistical Techniques, Indian Delinquency, Personal Values.*

Introduction

Man is a social animal. He has a natural urge to live an associated life with others. Man needs society for his existence or survival. The human child depends on his parents and others for its survival and growth. The inherent capacities of the child can develop only in society. The ultimate goal of society is to promote good and happy life for its individuals. It creates conditions and opportunities for the all-round development of individual personality. Society ensures harmony and cooperation among individuals in spite of their occasional conflicts and tensions. If society helps the individuals in numerous ways, great men also contribute to society by their wisdom and experience. Thus, society and individuals are bound by an intimate and harmonious bond and the conflicts between the two are apparent and momentary. In a well-ordered society, there would be lasting harmony between the two. The words normal and average, as applied to human development or behavior, are terms commonly used to describe individuals who display personal characteristics that are similar to those of most others of their same age. Some individuals differ so greatly in one or another characteristic that they are regarded as abnormal or as deviating from an accepted form. Abnormality like deviation is a general concept, implying the state of being away from the norm. A person whose possession of a trait or quality below of an average or normal individual is considered to be subnormal in that respect and one who evidences greater than normal possession of the characteristics is supernormal.

* Principal, Modern College of Professional Studies (MCPS), Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P., India.

Based on the difference of development of Physical, mental, emotional and social development, exceptional children are classified into various types: Gifted Children, Backward Children, Physically Handicapped Children, and Delinquent Children etc.

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 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.

As per National Crime Records Bureau(NCRB), the share of IPC crimes registered against juveniles to total IPC crimes registered in the country during 2005 was at 1.0% which marginally increased to 1.1% in 2006 and remained static in 2007. This share increased marginally to 1.2% in 2008 thereafter decreased to 1.1% in 2009. This share further decreased to 1.0% in 2010 and thereafter marginally increased to 1.1% in 2011. Further, the share increased marginally to 1.2% in 2012 and remained static at 1.2% in 2013 and 2014. Furthermore, the share has marginally decreased to 1.1% in 2015. The number of cases registered under various sections of IPC crimes against juveniles (in conflict with law) in 2015 have decreased by 6.3% during 2015 over 2014 as 33,526 cases under IPC crimes were registered against juveniles during 2014 which decreased to 31,396 such cases in 2015.

The highest share of cases registered against juveniles were reported under the crime head 'theft' (19.2%), 'criminal trespass/burglary' (8.3%), 'rape' (5.4%) and kidnapping & abduction' (5.2%) and 'Causing injuries under rash driving/road rage' (4.9%). These five crime heads have together accounted for 43.0% of total IPC cases (31,396 cases) of juveniles in conflict with law. Cases of juveniles in conflict with law registered under various SLL crimes have decreased by 59.6% in 2015 as compared to 2014 as 5,039 cases of juveniles in conflict with law under SLL registered in 2014 which decreased to 2,037 cases in 2015. The highest share of cases registered against juveniles was reported for the crime under 'Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act' which accounted for 22.6% of total SLL cases (2,037 cases) registered against juveniles.

Status of Juvenile Delinquency in India with Reference to Ghaziabad

Ghaziabad is a largely suburban district of Uttar Pradesh state in northern India of National Capital Region. The town of Ghaziabad is the administrative headquarters of the district. Ghaziabad district is bounded on the northwest by Baghpat District, on the north by Meerut District, on the east by Hapur District, on the southeast by Bulandshahr District, on the southwest by Gautam Buddha Nagar District, and on the west by Delhi state across the Yamuna River. According to the 2011 census of Ghaziabad district, it has a population of 4,661,452. The district has a population density of 3,967 inhabitants per square kilometre (10,270/sq mi). Its population growth rate over the decade 2001–2011

was 41.66%. Ghaziabad has a sex ratio of 878 females for every 1000 males, and a literacy rate of 85%. In the year 2015, a total of 41,385 cases (under IPC) were registered against children below 18 years of age, as against a total number of 28,51,563 cases registered in the country during that year. As per the Crime in India 2015 Statistics, (by National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs Government of India, juveniles in conflict with Law Under Different Crime Heads (IPC) During 2015 in Uttar Pradesh is as follows:

Murder (Sec 302 IPC) – 105

Attempt to Commit Murder C.H. (Sec 307 IPC) – 33

Not Amounting To Murder (Sec 304, 308 IPC) - 26

Rape (Sec 376 IPC) -196

Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec 363 - 369, 371 - 373 IPC) -106

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.

Today our family life is sorrowful, social life is disorderly, national life is indiscipline and international life is tormented. Today, man has become selfish, materialistic, corrupt, opportunist, violent and he is looking away from gratefulness and duty. The relation between husband and wife, brother and brother, brother and sister, father and son, neighbor and neighbor is tense. The spirit of mutual cooperation, love, devotion, faithfulness, honesty, empathy, kindness and other's well being is taking a nosedive. Corruption, bribery, black marketing, smuggling, black money, exploitation of the poor and helplessness are increasing day by day. The spirit of indiscipline, dishonesty, disloyalty to dignity of labour, indifference to duty and irresponsibility is increasing. Demonstration, destruction, violence and terrorism have become a part of the society and nation. It is creating tension and fear in the society and we are proceeding towards destruction. Such a massive change is taking place in the values today that the very meaning of life is undergoing a change.

This ferocious and anxious situation in the country has drawn the attention of the teachers, educationist, educational planners and educational officials towards the need of values education. Now they have come to realize that the society and national cannot be prevented from going wrong way without introducing values in education. This is only alternative for security, peace, development and prosperity of the country.

The most effective way to prevent and eradicate juvenile delinquency has indisputably been to assist children and their families early on. Numerous state programs attempt early intervention, and federal funding for community initiatives has allowed independent groups to tackle the problem in new ways. Education is the most effective way to eradicate this problem. Model programs have assisted families and children by providing them with information. Some programs inform parents on how to raise healthy children; some teach children about the effects of drugs, gangs, sex, and weapons; and others aim to express to youth the innate worth they and all others have. All of these programs provide youths with the awareness that their actions have consequences. This is particularly important in an era where youth are barraged with sexual and violent images. Educational programs have the underlying intent of encouraging hope and opening up opportunities for young people (Juvenile Delinquency Prevention). The whole school approach to nurturing values is preferred, in place of separate subject or activity based approach. The underlying premise is that all events, exchanges and interactions taking place in the school, inside or outside the classroom, should draw attention towards value-based behaviour.

Need and Significance of the Study

The purpose the study is to know the importance of values in Juvenile Delinquency, how they think about values, what kind of values they have and what is the role of education in Juvenile Delinquency, how can we stop Juvenile Delinquency by education and what is their educational status. This study will give suggestions to the schools and the parents to develop the values at the primary stage of children, because most of the crimes committed at the adolescence stage and if children have values, the ratio of Juvenile delinquency will be reduced. The study will be helpful to control causes of Juvenile Delinquency.

Statement of the Problem

“An Exploratory Study of Personal Values and Educational Status of Juvenile Delinquency in Ghaziabad District”

Definition of Key Terms

- **Juvenile Delinquent**

Crimes or offences carried out by young people who are older than the age of criminal responsibility but not liable as adults. Burt saw delinquency as a dangerous extreme of childhood naughtiness with a multiplicity of psychological and social causes. Social theories of delinquency refer to schools of crime, social protest and sub-course; Psychological theories look at hypothesis of inheritance, behaviorist, conditioning, anti -social characters and neurotic criminality in causing delinquency. Most common delinquent crimes are larceny, breaking and entering, sexual offenses and soliciting for prostitution. Such young people are variously known as delinquents, juvenile delinquents or youthful offenders. The behavior is said to be delinquent behavior (indigo dictionary of education):

- **Personal**

Individual, Private directed to or concerning an individual.

- **Values**

One's principles or standards; one judgment of what is valuable or important in life.

- **Exploratory Research**

Research that is not explicitly intended to test hypothesis (as in basic research) nor to solve practical problems (as in applied research) but is used to make initial forays into unfamiliar territory when studying new or poorly understood phenomenon. Compare Action Research, Descriptive Research, Evaluation Research.

Objectives of the Study

Main objective of the study are:

- To study the personal values of Juvenile Delinquency in Ghaziabad
- To study the educational status of Juvenile Delinquency.
- To study the relationship between Personal Values and Education Level of Delinquent Juveniles

Methodology

The method or approach used in the study is indicated by the nature of the problem and the type of data required for answering the questions relating to the problem. Keeping in view a number of considerations such as nature of problem, the objective of the study and the resourcefulness of the investigation, the researcher have decided to use descriptive survey method.

Sample

Accuracy and precision of the generalization depends upon the representativeness of the sample. Therefore, in order to select sample investigator used purposive sampling. Purposing sampling is often used in the qualitative research studies. The present study has been carried out on 50 Juveniles of Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh).

Tools Used

In order to collect evidence or data for study, the researcher has to use some specific tools and techniques. Appropriate selection of tool and techniques for the valid result is essential. For conducting the present study following tools and techniques have been used:

- Personal Value Scale prepared by Madhulika Verma, Sr. Lecturer, School of Education, Devi Ahilya University, Indore (M.P.), Vindhshwari Waxar Powar, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh) has been used for evaluation of personal values in Juvenile.
- Interview with Juvenile Delinquents to gather information regarding education, nature of crime for which apprehended and case filed against them.

Data Collection

Whereas the research method describes the overall approach to the problem, data collection is concerned with procedures and techniques to be adopted. Attempt to gather data upto maximum extent of reliability and validity was made by investigator. Data is collected by investigator by interaction and interview with Juveniles through Personal Value Scale.

Statistical Techniques

After accomplishment of data collection and its proper arrangement in tabular form Z-Score was calculated to asses' comparative level of personal values in Juveniles.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Status of Personal Values in Juveniles Based on Total Score

Assessment of Personal values and Educational Status in the Juvenile Delinquents of Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh) is carried out with interaction and interview through Personal Values Scale.

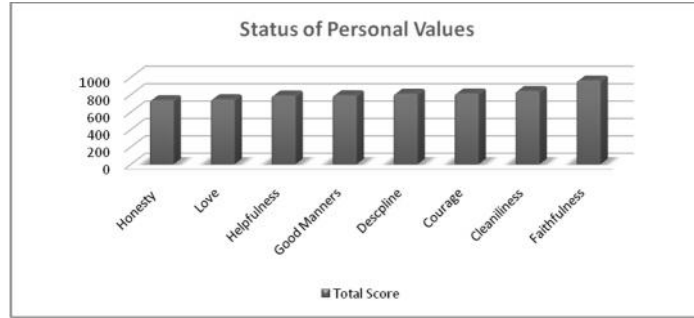


Figure 1: Status of Personal Values in Juveniles Based on Total Score

Figure 1 is depicting status of personal values viz. Honesty, Love, Helpfulness, Good Manners, Discipline, Courage, Cleanliness and Faithfulness. On the basis of close examination of figure 1 reveals that:

- Maximum score obtained by Juveniles in faithfulness followed by Cleanliness, Courage and Discipline whereas score for honesty is least.
- Helpfulness, Good Manners and Discipline are found at Moderate level.

Classification of Personal Values in Juveniles Based on Grade

Table 1: Classification of Personal Values in Juveniles based on Grade

S. No.	Grade	Level of Personal Values	Number of Juveniles
1	A	Extremely High	0
2	B	High	6
3	C	Above average	12
4	D	Average	20
5	E	Below average	6
6	F	Low	5
7	G	Extremely low	1

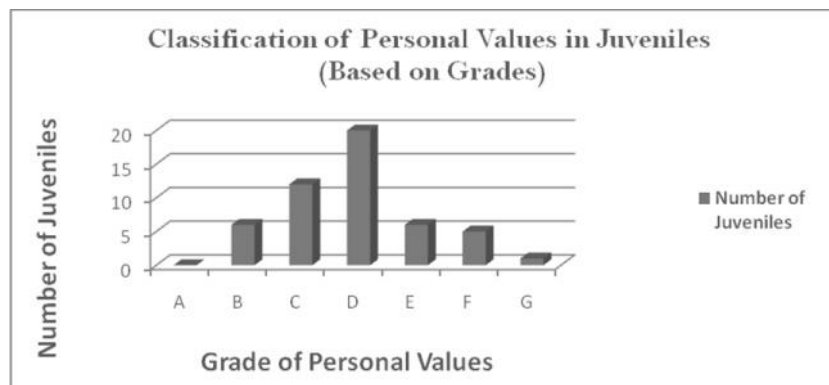


Figure 2: Classification of Personal Values in Juveniles based on Grades

Classification of Juveniles Based on Education

Classification of Juveniles based on their Educational Qualification, range of Z-score, Actual score and their numbers is provided below in table 6.

Table 2: Classification of Juveniles based on their Education level

S. No.	Education Level	Range of Z-Score	Actual Score	Number of Juveniles
1	5 th	-1.666 to +0.892	115-138	9
2	6 th	-2.778 to + 0.002	105-130	6
3	7 th	-0.331 to + 0.780	127-137	5
4	8 th	-1.666 to + 0.892	115-138	11
5	9 th	-0.331 to + 1.448	127-143	12
6	10 th	-0.665 to + 1.337	124-142	7

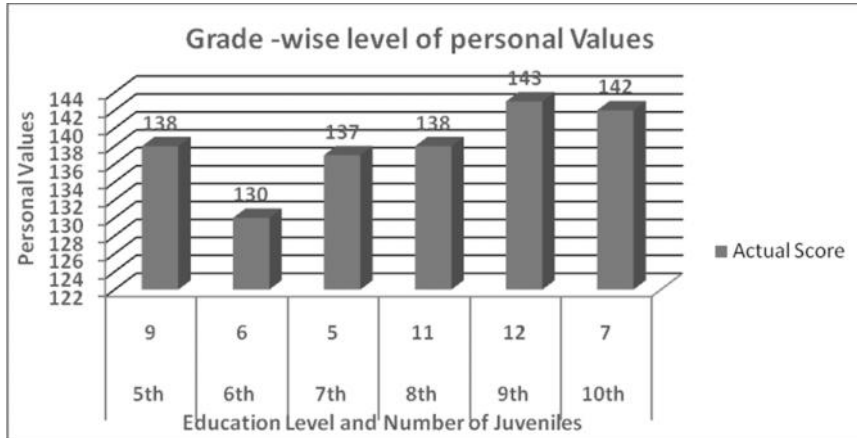


Figure 3: Status of Personal Values of juveniles based on their Education Level

Close examination of Table 2 reveals that:

- Maximum score is obtained by 12 Juveniles having educational qualification up to 9th Standard.
- Juveniles educated up to 10th standards acquired second highest score i.e. 142.
- Minimum score 105 obtained by Juvenile educated up to 6th Standard.
- Juveniles educated up to 5th, 7th and 8th have acquire almost similar maximum scores viz.138, 137, 138.

Percent Distribution of Personal Values in Juvenile Delinquents

Percent distribution of Personal Values in Juvenile Delinquents is depicted in figure 4:

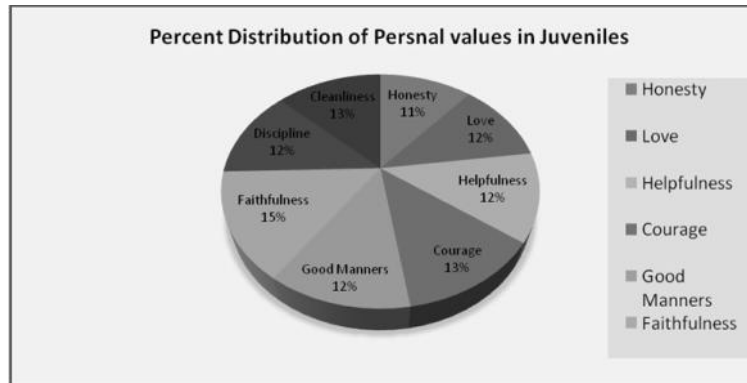


Figure 4: Percent Distribution of Personal Values in Juveniles

Observation of figure 4 depicting personal values in Juveniles reveals that:

- Percent contribution of faithfulness is maximum i.e. 15%,
- Percent contribution of Cleanliness, courage is equal i.e. 13%.
- Honesty contributes minimum level i.e. 11% of personal values.

Correlation between Personal Values and Education Level

On the basis of score obtained by Juveniles, correlation between their educational level and Personal values is depicted below in figure 5:

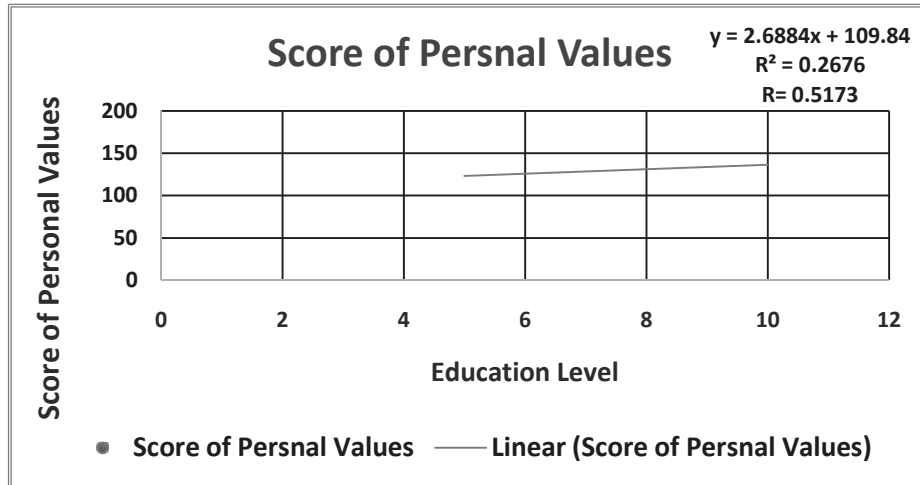


Figure 5: Correlation between Personal Values and Education Level of Juveniles

Observation of figure 5, reveals that Personal Values of juveniles are high positively correlated with their Education Level, which determines that Juveniles who are more educated have higher values in themselves.

Conclusion

By using variety of data and processing it with the help of different statistical techniques the researcher has come out with following conclusions:

- The delinquency rate tends to be highest during early adolescence (12-16 years age group).
- Low educational background is the main attribute of Indian delinquency during interaction session; juveniles admitted are either illiterate or are studied up to primary level.
- Poor economic background is second important feature of juvenile delinquency. Most of the, juveniles come from low income group.
- Based on interaction with Juvenile it is observed that most of the Juveniles left their study in between though they wanted to study further but due to some circumstances but they couldn't due to their family condition, poverty or responsibility etc. Their study interrupted as either they were working somewhere or helping their parents in some kind of work.
- On the basis of interaction with various juveniles it is reflected that surroundings, peer groups, lust and desire of lavishness, family tensions, and criminal backgrounds of parents are some of the major causes behind delinquent behaviour of the juveniles.
- The specific juvenile delinquency rates of Juveniles in Ghaziabad Reveals that Theft, Hurt and Grievous Hurts and Burglary are the notable crimes done by youths. While under local and special laws, the Gambling and crimes mentioned under Prohibition Acts are of more magnitude
- It is observed that although Juvenile Delinquents are not much educated, existence of personal values viz. love, Cleanliness, courage etc. is found with them and they understand importance of these values.
- They possess human values but due to some reason and circumstances they commit crime.
- Based on data analysis, it is observed that Juveniles who are more educated have more personal values in compare to those who are lesser educated.

Thus, it is concluded that values exist in every human being but rectification is required to improve and this can be accomplished efficiently through education. Education enables a person to acquire/inherit values appropriately and help him to differentiate between fair and unfair. Therefore, it is necessary that every child should be educated because a well-educated child may better adjust himself in social environment. On the basis of overall analysis, it has been observed that Juvenile Delinquent possesses Personal Values. Juveniles who are more educated they possess higher values in compare to those who are less educated. Thus, we can say that education plays a vital role in human life. Education empowers a child to think appropriately. Education provides prospect to a human being to distinguish between suitable / unsuitable so that he can choose a suitable path in his life.

Delimitations of the Study

- The study is conducted at Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh).
- Data is collected from male juveniles only.
- The study provides status of Juveniles up to the age of 16 years only.

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