
The Importance of the Younger Generation in Combating the Dangers of Juvenile Delinquency.

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ABSTRACT

This research explored the pivotal role of the younger generation in addressing the dangers associated with juvenile delinquency. The study examined the multifaceted benefits of involving youth in preventative and intervention strategies to curb delinquent behaviors. Through a comprehensive literature review and analysis, the research highlighted key findings. 1) Early intervention and prevention programs targeting at-risk youth offer a promising approach to disrupting the trajectory of delinquent behaviors. Engaging the younger generation through mentorship, education, and community involvement equips them with essential life skills and values that act as deterrents. 2) The influence of peers and positive role models plays a vital role in shaping behavior. 3) Empowering young individuals to take ownership of change promotes a sense of responsibility and agency. 4) The effective communication methods employed by the youth, such as social media, facilitate the dissemination of anti-delinquency messages. The research emphasized the long-term societal impact of involving the youth. By nurturing responsible, empathetic individuals, society sets the stage for sustained positive change, as engaged youth transition into responsible adults who contribute positively to their communities. Collaborative approaches that involve young individuals in understanding the root causes of delinquency led to more comprehensive solutions.

The active involvement of the younger generation through early intervention, positive peer influence, empowerment, effective communication, and community collaboration not only addresses immediate challenges but also shapes a future defined by safer communities and responsible citizenship.

1. Introduction

In today's rapidly evolving society, the Specter of juvenile delinquency casts a shadow over the potential of our future generations. As we grapple with the complexities of an interconnected world, the need for proactive measures to combat the dangers of juvenile delinquency becomes more pressing than ever. At the heart of this endeavour lies the paramount role of the younger generation. Their fresh perspectives, innovative ideas, and unwavering energy hold the key to reshaping the narrative surrounding youth crime.

The essence of addressing juvenile delinquency transcends mere punishment; it's about fostering an environment that empowers young individuals to become responsible, empathetic, and productive members of society. This introductory exploration delves into the multifaceted significance of the younger generation's involvement in the battle against juvenile delinquency. By examining the potential root causes, systemic factors, and the influence of social environments, we can gain a holistic understanding of the issue.

Throughout this discourse, we will traverse the landscape of youth empowerment programs, educational initiatives, mentorship opportunities, and community engagement efforts that not only act as preventative measures but also actively steer young minds away from the perilous path of delinquency. Through these avenues, the younger generation assumes an active role in shaping a safer and more promising future for themselves and their peers.

With the process of guiding and directing young people who are tough and have broad insight or knowledge, it is not enough, but everything must be complemented by the inculcation of a high religious spirit. And related to this, Winarno Surakhmad said: "It is a fact in the history of the development of the people who maintain their survival to always surrender and entrust their lives in the hands of the younger generation. It is the younger generation who then bears the responsibility for not only maintaining the survival of its people but also increasing the quality of life. If the younger generation who should receive the task of writing the history of their nation do not have the readiness and ability needed by the life of that nation, then it undoubtedly progresses towards aridity leading to dwarfism and finally to destruction. Therefore, the position of the younger generation in society is vital for that society (Surakhmad, 1997).

When we discuss today's youth, we are faced with an ironic view. Teenagers who are the foundation of the nation's future must appear as joyous bearers of hope (Rulmuzu, 2021). But the reality is that today the majority of our youth are mired in the mire of misguidance, fights, robberies, drugs, motorbike gangs, etc. are colures that are attached to progress to today's youth, plus attitudes and an environment that pays little attention to them as if to complement this concern. In newspapers, we often read news about student fights, the spread of narcotics, the use of drugs, alcohol, snatching by teenagers who are in their teens, increasing cases of pregnancy among young women, and so on. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to find out how important the younger generation is in dealing with juvenile delinquency.

While recognizing the challenges that lie ahead, we must also acknowledge the inherent resilience and resourcefulness of today's youth. By harnessing their inherent strengths and changeling them towards positive change, we have the chance to make a lasting impact on the trajectory of juvenile delinquency. Together, as a society that values the potential of its youth, we can lay the groundwork for a brighter tomorrow—one where the dangers of juvenile delinquency are mitigated by the indomitable spirit of the younger generation.

2. Methods

A literature review is a crucial step in conducting research as it involves systematically reviewing and analyzing existing literature, research studies, and other relevant sources to gain a comprehensive understanding of the topic. (*John W. Creswell's Research Design 3rd Ed*, n.d.) A guide on conducting a literature review: Step 1) Define Research Question or Objective Clearly define a research question, objective, or problem statement. 2) Search Strategy Develop a systematic search strategy to identify relevant literature. Utilize academic databases, libraries, online repositories, and search engines. 3) Selection Criteria Establish inclusion and exclusion criteria for selecting sources. These criteria can be based on publication date, source type, relevance to your research question, and quality of research. 4) Source Identification and Selection Conduct the initial search using your search strategy. Review the titles and abstracts of the identified sources to determine their relevance. 5) Full-Text Review Retrieve the full-text versions of the selected sources. Read through them thoroughly to understand their content, methodologies, findings, and implications. 6) Organize and Summarize Organize the information from the sources. Create a summary table, spreadsheet, or other organizing tool to record key details such as authors, publication dates, research methods, main findings, and key arguments. 7) Identify Themes and Gaps Analyze the sources to identify common themes, trends, patterns, and gaps in the existing literature. Compare and contrast the findings and arguments presented in different sources. 8) Synthesize and Interpret Synthesize the information gathered to provide a coherent overview of the current state of knowledge on the research topic. 9) Critical Evaluation Evaluate the quality and credibility of the sources you've included. Consider the methodology, sample size, data collection methods, and potential biases. 10) Write the Literature Review Begin writing a literature review. Organize it according to themes, chronology, or other relevant structures. Provide a concise summary of the main points from each source, highlighting their significance to the research question. 11) Revise and Edit Review your literature review draft for clarity, coherence, and accuracy.

3. Result

The research investigating the significance of involving the younger generation in combatting the dangers of juvenile delinquency has yielded valuable insights into the potential impact of youth engagement on addressing this critical societal issue. (Moffitt, 1990) The findings emphasize the multifaceted benefits of actively involving young individuals in preventative and intervention efforts aimed at curbing juvenile delinquency.

3.1 Early Intervention and Preventative Strategies

The research underscores the importance of early intervention and preventative strategies in mitigating the risks associated with juvenile delinquency. (Version, 1994) Engaging the younger generation through programs that focus on education, mentorship, and community involvement can effectively target at-risk individuals before delinquent behaviours become entrenched. (Slimani & Jabal, 2023) These initiatives equip young individuals with essential life skills, positive

values, and constructive coping mechanisms that serve as protective factors against criminal activities.

3.2 B. Peer Influence and Positive Role Modelling

The research highlights the influential role of peer relationships and the potential for positive role modelling to deter delinquent behaviours. (Agnew, 2017) Youth-led initiatives and mentorship programs capitalize on the inherent inclination of young individuals to seek peer approval. Positive peer pressure, guided by mentors and role models from within the youth demographic, can foster an environment where negative behaviours are discouraged and replaced with pro-social activities.

3.3 Empowerment and Ownership of Change

The research findings underscore the transformative power of empowerment and ownership among the younger generation in combating juvenile delinquency. (Slimani & Jabal, 2023) Engaging young individuals in decision-making processes and encouraging their active participation in community-based solutions instils a sense of responsibility and agency. This empowerment not only boosts their self-esteem but also fosters a collective commitment to creating safer and more resilient communities.

3.4 Effective Communication and Relevance

The research emphasizes the effectiveness of communication strategies employed by the younger generation in promoting anti-delinquency messages. Modern communication tools such as social media enable young individuals to reach their peers with relevant content that resonates on a personal level. (Simon, 2017) This communication prowess enhances the potential for behavioural change by leveraging treatability and fostering open discussions about the dangers of juvenile delinquency.

3.5 E. Long-Term Societal Impact

The research findings highlight the long-term societal impact of involving the youth in combating juvenile delinquency. By nurturing a generation of responsible, empathetic, and socially aware individuals, we create a foundation for sustained positive change. (Kubrin & Weitzer, 2003) As engaged youth mature into responsible adults, they are more likely to contribute positively to society, creating a ripple effect that contributes to safer communities for generations to come.

3.6 F. Community Collaboration and Empathy

The research underscores the importance of community collaboration and empathy in tackling the root causes of juvenile delinquency. (Gorbachev, 2020) By involving young individuals in the identification and understanding of underlying issues, interventions can be tailored to address the multifaceted factors that contribute to delinquent behaviors. This collaborative approach fosters empathy, enabling more holistic solutions that resonate with the challenges faced by at-risk youth

The younger generation tends to be more skilled in using technology and social media (Nurhakiki, et al, 2023). They can utilize these platforms to disseminate information about the dangers of juvenile delinquency, the associated risks, and the negative consequences that may be

encountered. In this way, they can help raise awareness and educate their peers about the importance of staying away from negative behaviour.

The younger generation can also act as a liaison between families and juvenile delinquents. They can play a positive role in communicating the problems their peers face to their parents or more mature family members, thereby helping them find appropriate solutions and support. Getting involved in social, cultural, or sporting activities can help distract young people from negative behaviours. They can be a driving force in establishing or joining groups that promote positive and constructive activities.

The younger generation is an agent of change in society. By speaking openly about the importance of avoiding juvenile delinquency, they can influence mindsets and behaviour among their peers as well as generations past. The younger generation can contribute to creating a supportive, safe, and positive environment for youth. For example, they can work with schools, government agencies, and community organizations to organize juvenile delinquency prevention programs. The younger generation often has fresh perspectives and approaches to solving problems. They can develop creative and innovative initiatives to prevent juvenile delinquency and address the underlying issues. In overcoming the dangers of juvenile delinquency, collaboration between the younger generation, parents, educators, government, and the entire community is very important. Together, we can create an enabling environment and ensure a better future for the next generation.

The research results reinforce the pivotal role of the younger generation in combatting the dangers of juvenile delinquency. By embracing early intervention, leveraging peer influence, fostering empowerment, utilizing effective communication methods, and prioritizing long-term societal impact, society can harness the potential of the youth to create meaningful change. The commitment to engaging young individuals not only addresses immediate challenges but also lays the groundwork for a more harmonious and secure future.

4. Discussion

Juvenile delinquency is an acquaintance that occurs when he begins to grow up, so juvenile delinquency in the concept of psychology is Juvenile delinquency, etymologically it can be interpreted that Juvenile comes from the Latin word which means children or young people. Meanwhile, "delinquent" means to be neglected or ignored, so with that, both can be expanded to become evil, asocial, rule breaker, troublemaker, terrorist, criminal, moral, and so on. From the description above, what is meant by juvenile delinquency is juvenile delinquency, but this understanding is interpreted to have a negative impact psychologically and has an impact on the child who is the perpetrator. So that the etymological understanding has changed or shifted evenly, but only concerns activity, namely the term crime becomes delinquency. Psychologist Walgito formulates the meaning of Juvenile Delinquency as follows "Each action is committed by an adult, then the act is a crime, so an act against the law is carried out by a child, especially a teenager (Walgito, 1998).

Wilis (2005) argues "juvenile delinquency is the act of some teenagers who are contrary to law, religion, and societal norms so that the consequences can harm other people, disturb public peace, and also damage themselves". Many factors cause juvenile delinquency. According to Nelson (2016), juvenile delinquency is caused by four factors, namely: factors that exist within the child himself, factors that come from the family environment, factors that come from the community environment, and finally, 10% factors that come from the school. The causes of juvenile delinquency include:

4.1 Lack of attention from parents to their children

In the household, sometimes what is meant by the absence of balance and attention, the meaning is that the balance between parents and their duties must be comprehensive. Each task demands full attention according to its position. If not, there is a balance that is borne by parents in child development. This means that family stability, education, physical and psychological care, including religious life, are not needed. 30% of parents' attention to their duties as an educator and at the same time the father/mother for the child is not balanced, it means that the child's needs can be met which causes the child to take a path that is not under the control of the parents, such as watching a scene with negative thoughts.

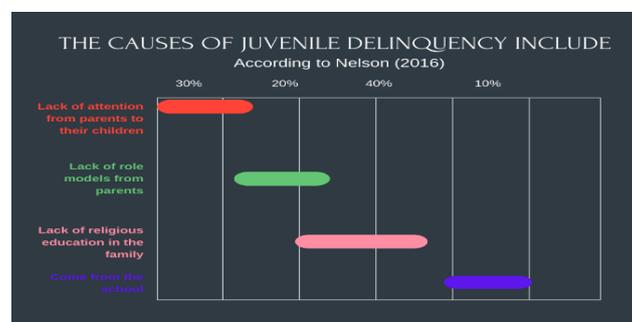
4.2 Lack of role models from parents

The example of both parents is needed by their children in the form of the behavior of a father/mother toward their younger siblings, older siblings, and the environment around them. Many children degenerate in morals because the attitude of their parents is not good. 30% of parents do not set a good example regarding this good attitude, this attitude affects the moral development of children indirectly, namely through the process of imitation because parents are the closest people to themselves and are met every day.

4.3 Lack of religious education in the family

Usually, parents think that education is only given at school while at home it is not necessary anymore, even though parents do not realize that a child's life at home is longer than at school which is only a few hours. And even more fatal if parents think that the problem of religious education is not important, what is more, important is general education.

40% family has the above principles, confusion occurs in children. It's another case that if parents pay attention to religious education in their daily needs and parents live out their belief in God, then it influences their attitudes and actions. This also affects the way parents care for, nurture, teach and educate their children. Children who are equipped with religious teachings, all of that can become a strong foundation for the moral development of children and the whole of their later lives. Conversely, if the child does not receive religious teachings from the family, the child becomes unsteady and no longer has control over himself, what is lawful and unlawful for them to do.



Picture . The causes of juvenile delinquency include Nelson (2016),

Acts of teenagers who are still in the process of searching for identity often disturb the peace of others. Mild delinquency that disturbs the peace of the Sounding environment, such as often going out at night and spending time just having fun, such as drinking, using illegal drugs, fighting, gambling, etc., harm him, his family, and other people around him. Quite a lot of factors

behind the occurrence of juvenile delinquency. The main characteristics of juvenile delinquency include:

1. The notion of delinquency, it must be seen that some actions or behaviours violate applicable laws and violation of moral values.
2. This delinquency has an anti-social goal, that is, the act or behaviours are contrary to the values or social norms that exist in their environment.
3. Delinquency is delinquency committed by those aged between 13-17 years and over and who are not married.
4. Juvenile delinquency can also be carried out together in a group of teenagers (Gunarsa, 1989) The problem of juvenile delinquency is a problem that is of concern to everyone everywhere, both in an advanced society and in an underdeveloped society. Because someone's moral mischief results in disturbing the peace of those around them. Lately, there have been many cases of juvenile delinquency which often disturb the community, among others; fighting, deprivation, hijacking of public transport, sexual harassment, or in other forms that we often encounter. Various forms of juvenile delinquency are increasing and collaring our lives, making parents, teachers, community leaders, and even the government concerned. As for the types of juvenile delinquency Zakiah Daradjat in his book *Fostering Moral Values*, divides them into three parts, namely (Mumtahanah, 2015):

4.4 Mild Delinquency

Mild delinquency is a delinquency that does not break the law. Among others are:

1. Do not want to obey parents and teachers.
 Things like this usually happen to teenagers, they don't hesitate to oppose what their parents and teachers say if it doesn't match their way of thinking. Teenagers experience conflict when parents and teachers still hold on to old values, namely values that are not following today's times. Teenagers want to obey their parents and teachers when they know the causes and consequences of that order. Therefore, parents and teachers should pay attention to and appreciate the efforts of teenagers, so that teenagers feel cared for and valued.
2. Running or skipping school
 Often, we meet on the side of the road, students who are just releasing their boredom at school. At school, they were not spared from the complaints of the teachers, and their performance was declining. They not only disappointed the parents and teachers, but the community also felt disappointed with their behaviours. Sometimes teenagers act pious at home in school uniforms but don't know where they are going, and when school hours are over they come home on time. Teachers seem to have run out of ways to interest teenagers so they don't run away from school, especially during class hours. However, there are still teenagers who still try to escape from school for backward reasons, but in the end, they don't return to class.
3. Frequent fight
 Frequent fighting is one of the symptoms of juvenile delinquency. Teenagers whose emotional development is unstable, and who only follow without caring about others, are the enemies who block them. Teenagers who often fight are usually just looking for attention and to show their strength so that they are considered great people. This teenager is only looking for attention because of the lack of attention from parents and the environment around him.
4. How to dress
 Imitating the traits that are possessed by teenagers, imitating other people or their idol stars that are often seen on TV or in advertisements both in terms of dress or behaviour, even though it does not suit his condition what is important for him is to follow today's fashion.

4.5 Delinquency that disturbs the peace and security of others

This delinquency is delinquency which can be classified as a violation of the law because this delinquency disturbs the peace and security of society, including: stealing, holding hands, speeding, drinking, and narcotics abuse.

4.6 Sexual misconduct

Sexual understanding is not limited to physical problems, but psychologically were children's curiosity about sexual problems. The development of sexual maturity is not only physical and psychological. Often this growth is not accompanied by sufficient understanding to deal with it, both from the children themselves and educators and parents who are closed to these problems, so sexual mischief arises, both towards the opposite sex and the same sex. The types include: against other types, against people of the same sex.

5. Conclusion

The research investigating the significance of involving the younger generation in combating the dangers of juvenile delinquency has yielded valuable insights into the potential impact of youth engagement on addressing this critical societal issue. The findings emphasize the multifaceted benefits of actively involving young individuals in preventative and intervention efforts aimed at curbing juvenile delinquency. 1) Early Intervention and Preventative Strategies The research underscores the importance of early intervention and preventative strategies in mitigating the risks associated with juvenile delinquency. 2) Peer Influence and Positive Role modelling, the research highlights the influential role of peer relationships and the potential for positive role modelling to deter delinquent behaviors. 3) Empowerment and Ownership of Change, the research findings underscore the transformative power of empowerment and ownership among the younger generation in combating juvenile delinquency. 4) Effective Communication and Relevance, the research emphasizes the effectiveness of communication strategies employed by the younger generation in promoting anti-delinquency messages. Modern communication tools such as social media enable young individuals to reach their peers with relevant content that resonates on a personal level. 5) Long-Term Societal Impact, the research findings highlight the long-term societal impact of involving the youth in combating juvenile delinquency. By nurturing a generation of responsible, empathetic, and socially aware individuals, we create a foundation for sustained positive change. 6) Community Collaboration and Empathy, research underscores the importance of community collaboration and empathy in tackling the root causes of juvenile delinquency by involving young individuals in the identification and understanding of underlying issues, interventions can be tailored to address the multifaceted factors that contribute to delinquent behaviours. The research results reinforce the pivotal role of the younger generation in combating the dangers of juvenile delinquency, embracing early intervention, leveraging peer influence, fostering empowerment, utilizing effective communication methods, and prioritizing long-term societal impact, society could harness the potential of the youth to create meaningful change.

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