EXPLORING DELINQUENCY CAUSED AND CONTROL

Dean G. Rojek
University of Georgia

Gary F. Jensen
Vanderbilt University

Roxbury Publishing Company
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### Section I

**Delinquency and Juvenile Justice**

### Introduction

1. **What Stays the Same in History?**  
   *Thomas J. Bernard*  
   Bernard identifies perennial beliefs about juvenile crime that are reflected in cyclical shifts between harsh and lenient juvenile justice policies.

2. **A. Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Court, 1992**  
   *Jeffrey A. Butts*

3. **B. How Juveniles Get to Criminal Court**  
   *Melissa Sickmund*

4. **C. The Juvenile Court’s Response to Violent Crime**  
   *Verne L. Speirs*

   Excerpts from government reports illustrate the processing of delinquency cases, the mechanisms for trying juveniles as adults, and the outcome of adult versus juvenile processing of similar cases.

3. **Public Attitudes Toward Juvenile Crime and Juvenile Justice: Implications for Public Policy**  
   *Ira M. Schwartz, Shenyang Guo, and John Johnson Kerbs*

   A Center for Youth Policy opinion poll shows considerable public support for the treatment and rehabilitation goals of the juvenile court but also shows that the public wants the most serious juvenile offenders tried in adult court.

### Section II

**Legal Issues**

### Introduction

4. **In re Gault et al.**  
   This is one of the most significant cases on juvenile court proceedings. The Supreme Court ruled on certain issues relating to due process of law.
5. **New Jersey v. T.L.O.**

This case dealt with the issue of school searches for drugs. The Supreme Court extended authority of teachers to maintain order on school grounds.


The question arose regarding the legality of cities imposing curfews. The court ruled that municipalities have the right to restrict the right of juveniles in public places.

7. **In re Gault Revisited: A Cross-State Comparison of the Right to Counsel in Juvenile Court**

*BH. Feld*

Feld looks at the implementation of the Gault case and finds half of the states not to be in compliance.

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**Section III**

**Measuring Delinquency**

**Introduction**

8. **Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A Focus on Violence**

*Howard N. Snyder and Melissa Sickmund*

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention summarizes information on recent trends in juvenile violence, including weapons violence and victimization.

9. **National Survey Results on Drug Use From Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-1993**

*Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick O'Malley, and Jerald Bachman*

University of Michigan surveys carried out each year since 1975 show that most forms of drug use peaked in the early to mid-1980s, declining until quite recently when signs of an upsurge have appeared.

10. **Culture, Gender, and Delinquency: A Study of Youths in the United States and India**

*Clayton A. Hartjen and Sesharajani Kethineni*

The gender gap in arrest rates and self-reports of delinquent behavior for girls and boys in the United States and India are examined and possible sources of cultural variation discussed.

11. **Serious Violent Offenders: Onset, Developmental Course, and Termination**

*Delbert S. Elliott*

In his Presidential address to the American Society of Criminology, Delbert Elliott discusses criticisms of the use of self-report methods to study delinquency and shows that patterns by gender, race, and age are consistent with others ways of measuring delinquency.
12. Minorities and the Juvenile Justice System:
   A Research Summary
   Carl Pope and William Feyerherm

This report to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention examines research on racial biases in juvenile justice processing and specifies the direction such research must take in addressing the problem.

Section IV
Theories of Delinquency

Introduction

13. Biological Perspectives in Criminology
   Diana H. Fishbein

Modern-day biological research suggests that there may be a relationship between delinquency and biology.

14. Biological Positivism
   Michael R. Gottfredson and Travis Hirschi

Gottfredson and Hirschi emphatically reject any notion that biological research plays a role in the study of delinquency.

15. Social Learning and Deviant Behavior:
    A Specific Test of a General Theory
    Ronald L. Akers, Marvin D. Krohn,
    Lonn Lanza-Kaduce, and Marcia Radosevich

Adolescent drinking and drug behavior are examined from the perspective of social learning theory. The authors conclude that social learning theory is strongly supported.

16. Age, Peers, and Delinquency
   E. Mark Warr

Warr argues that the age-delinquency relationship can be explained by Sutherland's concept of differential association. Peer influence is a critical variable in understanding delinquency.

Section V
Social and Cultural Causation

Introduction

17. Poverty, Income Inequality, and Community Crime Rates
   E. Brit Patterson

The types of community characteristics, emphasized by early social disorganization theorists as undermining informal community controls and neighborhood social bonds, are found to be particularly important for understanding rates of victimization.
18. Foundation for a General Strain Theory of Crime and Delinquency
Robert Agnew

Agnew outlines several different ways in which frustration can be generated among youth and result in delinquent behavior as a means of solving or escaping such problems.

19. Parents and Drugs: Specifying the Consequences of Attachment
Gary F. Jensen and David Brownfield

Jensen and Brownfield test distinct hypotheses about the impact of bonds to “straight” and drug-using parents suggested by social learning theory and some brands of social control theory.

20. Structural Position and Violence: Developing a Cultural Explanation
David F. Luckenbill and Daniel P. Doyle

Luckenbill and Doyle propose an explanation for high rates of murder and assault in terms of a “culture of violence” in which public threats to honor require a violent response.

Section VI
The Family, Schools, and Peer Groups

Introduction

Kevin N. Wright and Karen E. Wright

A review of the research on family life and how it relates to delinquent behavior.

22. School Bonding, Race, and Delinquency
Stephen A. Cernkovich and Peggy C. Giordano

The relationship of school to delinquency and how this relates to the issue of race.

23. The Influence of Delinquent Peers: What They Think or What They Do?
E. Mark Warr and Mark Stafford

An examination of the influence of the behavior of friends versus the attitudes of friends in the study of delinquency.

24. Gangs, Drugs, and Delinquency in a Survey of Urban Youth
Finn-Aage Esbensen and David Huizinga

Do gangs increase delinquent behavior or do delinquents gravitate toward gang membership?
Section VII
Media and Religion

Introduction

25. Television and Aggression: Results of a Panel Study
   J. Ronald Milavsky, Ronald Kessler, Horst Stipp, and William S. Rubens
   Children and teenagers are followed over time (i.e., a panel study) to assess whether television violence is a significant correlate of subsequent aggression, violence, or delinquency.

26. Movies and Juvenile Delinquency: An Overview
   Scott Snyder
   Snyder reviews the theories and evidence relevant to the link between movies and delinquency.

27. Religiosity and Delinquency: A Contextual Analysis
   Kirk W. Elifson, David M. Petersen, and C. Kirk Hadaway
   Research on the relevance of religion to delinquency suggests that religiosity is related to delinquency through its connection with family and peer relationships.

28. Crime and Delinquency in the Roaring Twenties
   Rodney Stark, William Sims Bainbridge, Robert D. Crutchfield, Daniel P. Doyle, and Roger Finke
   Stark and his colleagues examine the relevance of religious, moral, and social integration to crime and delinquency in the early twentieth century.

Section VIII
Deterrence and Labeling

Introduction

29. Court Processing Versus Diversion of Status Offenders: A Test of Deterrence and Labeling Theories
   Sharla Rausch
   Rausch examines whether variations in intervention in the lives of status offenders lead to escalating careers, as labeling theory suggests, or inhibits further offending, as deterrent theory predicts.

30. The Preventive Effects of the Perceived Risk of Arrest: Testing an Expanded Conception of Deterrence
   Daniel S. Nagin and Raymond Paternoster
   Using questionnaire data from a panel of high school students, Nagin and Paternoster find that the perceived threat of legal sanctions, as well as the perceived costs of getting caught, have crime-inhibiting effects.
31. Felony Murder and Capital Punishment: An Examination of the Deterrence Question
    
    *Ruth D. Peterson and William C. Bailey*
    
    The authors add a new piece of evidence to the long history of research on the general deterrent effect of capital punishment by studying the impact of television coverage of executions on felony murder.

**Section IX**

**Imprisonment and Alternatives**

**Introduction**

32. Juveniles Taken into Custody: Fiscal Year 1991
    
    *Barry Krisberg and Robert DeComo*
    
    This report lists the number of juveniles being admitted to public and private institutions for specific offenses and the length of stay in institutions.

33. Conditions of Confinement: Juvenile Detention and Corrections Facilities
    
    *ABT Associates, Inc.*
    
    This study examines the conditions at public and private juvenile facilities in terms of space, health care, and procedural standards.

34. Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders
    
    *John J. Wilson and James C. Howell*
    
    There is an increasing need to focus on the high-risk juvenile offender and to develop a comprehensive strategy, utilizing community-based sanctions and community prevention.

**Section X**

**Diversion, Restitution, and Shock Treatment**

**Introduction**

35. Juvenile Diversion and the Potential of Inappropriate Treatment for Offenders
    
    *Dean G. Rojek*
    
    The proliferation of juvenile diversion programs introduces the possibility of inappropriate treatment. It is suggested that such services may not only be wasteful but also produce negative effects.

36. Restitution and Juvenile Recidivism
    
    *Jeffrey A. Butts and Howard N. Snyder*
    
    Restitution offers the possibility of providing some compensation for victims of crime as well as lowering the recidivism rates of offenders.
37. Restitution as a Sanction in Juvenile Court
   *William G. Staples*

   Staples suggests that restitution may not be appropriate for use in the juvenile court because of high unemployment rates for teenagers.

38. Juvenile Intensive Supervision: The Impact on Felony Offenders Diverted From Institutional Placement
   *Richard G. Wiebush*

   Wiebush examines the pros and cons of intensive supervision as an alternative to institutionalization. His analysis reveals significant costs associated with intensive supervision.

39. The Impact of Shock Incarceration Programs on Prison Crowding
   *Doris Layton MacKenzie and Alex Piquero*

   Boot camps may have no impact on prison populations if boot camps are used as an alternative to probation.

40. A Critical Look at the Idea of Boot Camp as a Correctional Reform
   *Merry Morash and Lila Rucker*

   Morash and Rucker suggest that boot camps may be dehumanizing and question the efficacy of boot camps in enhancing prosocial behavior.

**Section XI**

**The Future of the Juvenile Justice System**

**Introduction**

41. History Overtakes the Juvenile Justice System
   *Theodore N. Ferdinand*

   Ferdinand argues that the state has not provided adequate support to the juvenile court. He feels that more attention needs to be given to treatment strategies.

42. Juvenile (In)Justice and the Criminal Court Alternative
   *Barry C. Feld*

   Feld contends that the distinction between the juvenile and adult court has become increasingly blurred. He argues that the juvenile court needs to find its philosophical roots or risk being abolished.

43. Rethinking the Juvenile Justice System
   *Travis Hirschi and Michael R. Gottfredson*

   Hirschi and Gottfredson question the very existence of the juvenile court. They see no justification for having a separate system for juveniles and for adults.